MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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DIARY OF THE WAR

3rd Jan.—Australian forces, supported by tanks, penetrate a sector of the defences of Bardia. Later on they penetrate the centre defences of Bardia to a depth of two miles on a frontage of nine miles.

The Greeks are continuing to nibble their way forward in all sectors in Albania. They cross the river Bence in the southern sector. The advance threatens to cut the road from Tepelini to Valona. In the central sector they have occupied Dobranje.

The full force of the *Luftwaffe's* fire raid falls on Bristol. Many buildings which would otherwise have been destroyed have been saved by the prompt action of civilians. A nursing home, a municipal clinic, a convent, a cinema and a hotel were hit. Four churches and four schools were damaged. Four firemen and two soldiers are believed to have been killed.

Royal Air Force bombers attack the industrial area in Bremen and set ablaze factories. Other targets in the enemy and enemy-occupied territory have also been attacked.

A reorganization of the Vichy Cabinet is announced. A Triumvirate, consisting of Admiral Darlan, General Huntziger and M. Flandin, has been formed to direct the affairs of the country under Marshal Petain's orders. M. Baudoin has resigned his office as Secretary of State to the Presidency of the Council.

President Roosevelt discloses that he is sending Mr. Harry Hopkins, former Secretary for Commerce, to Britain, as his personal representative, until a new Ambassador is appointed to succeed Mr. Kennedy. There is probably no man in America so close to the President as Mr. Hopkins who is therefore in an excellent position to inform Mr. Churchill very precisely where the President stands.

It is reported that German troops are massed along the line separating occupied and non-occupied France and are only restrained from occupying the whole country by Marshal Petain's threat to go to Africa with the French Fleet.

It is announced that the cut in the meat ration in England was the result of some ships which carried meat having been utilized for taking munitions to Libya. Explaining the meat position in the country, Lord Woolton, Food Minister, declares that he is deliberately sacrificing meat at home for munitions in Libya.

The American liner *President Coolidge* has arrived in Kobe to evacuate the wives and children of the crews of the United States fleet in the Far East. This evacuation of American women and children "reflects deeply the stirring international situation."

The British submarine, *Thunderbolt*, sinks an Italian submarine proceeding under escort to its base in enemy-occupied territory.

4th Jan.—General Wavell has tightened his stranglehold on Bardia. Over 15,000 of the Italian garrison are prisoners in British hands. Operations to mop up the remaining centres of resistance are continuing satisfactorily.

Desperate Italian counter-attacks against positions recently captured by the Greeks have been repulsed by the Greeks with heavy Italian losses. One of the most vigorous of these counter-attacks has been in the region of Klisura. On the north front the Greeks occupy important heights at nearly 5,000 feet.

British bombers raid successfully road junctions and other military objectives at Elbasan.

Night raids on England by enemy aircraft. The attack has been directed against a West England town where some damage has been done. A number of people have been killed or injured. Bombs have also been dropped at places in South Wales but the damage is not extensive nor casualties numerous. Losses: Enemy 2; British 1 missing.

Royal Air Force attack repeatedly in daylight and at dusk Brest, one of Germany's chief 'invasion' ports on the French coast. One German fighter plane has been hit and broken up in the air. One British plane fails to return. Targets in Hamburg have also been attacked. Direct hits have been scored in another operation on two enemy merchant-ships off the south-west coast of Norway.

A spokesman of the Foreign Office in Berlin denies that the Germans had anything to do with the bombing of Eire. He goes so far as to say that those bombs are English or else they are imaginary.

Franco-German negotiations are proceeding slowly owing to Marshal Petain's resolute resistance to everything not included in the Armistice terms.

A new anti-submarine weapon is being used by the British navy, namely, a vessel called "Corvette", a small speedy ship

whose prototype is the whale catcher. The "Corvette" is specially built to protect merchant shipping.

5th Jan.—The Italian garrison at Bardia surrenders. Thirty thousand prisoners with quantities of tanks, guns, equipment and stores of all sorts have been captured.

The Greeks have captured further positions particularly in the coastal sector of the Albanian front. Gunfire from both sides indicates that the Greeks and the Italians are both preparing for a major battle in the Elbasan-Pogradetz sector.

A Greek submarine, "*The Katsonia*" sinks an Italian tanker in the Adriatic off Sangiovannidimedu.

Free French Africa, a vast zone supporting General de Gaulle, has now definitely come into the war against Germany and Italy.

British official recognition has been given to the "Council of Defence of the Empire" established by General de Gaulle at Brazzaville.

It is reported that the Germans have demanded from the Vichy Government control of the Mont Cenis route to Italy.

One enemy raider attacks East Anglia in daylight and drops a few bombs causing a small amount of damage and injury to a few people. Machine-gun attacks by single raiders have also been reported. At night London has been the main target of the *Luftwaffe*. Fires started at several points have been promptly dealt with. Casualties are believed to be not heavy.

The internal position of Rumania is worsening and the administration is scarcely able to maintain control, according to information from the Bulgarian-Rumanian frontier.

Brest has been bombed again in daylight by British bombers. Shipping in the docks and the enemy aerodrome have been the targets. One German plane has been shot down.

6th Jan.—Elements of the Imperial Forces are approaching Tobruk. Royal Air Force rain bombs on Tobruk. There has been increased air activity over Eastern Libya. Royal Air Force fighters engage in several combats, destroy seven Fiat biplane fighters and four Savoia bombers and badly damage several others. Royal Air Force also raid Massawa, Italy's East African naval base.

A thaw in the northern sector of the Albanian front has enabled the Greeks to resume their advance. Their artillery has been very effective in weakening enemy positions.

Bombs have been dropped in the London area, in Kent and the Eastern Counties by single German aircraft. Some damage is done to houses and shops and a small number of people killed.

President Roosevelt addresses Congress. In the course of his address he states that the purpose and pledge of the Americans to the Democracies are that the Americans are vitally concerned in the defence of freedom and that they would put forth their energies, resources and organizing powers to give the Democracies strength to regain and maintain a free world and that they would send them in ever-increasing numbers, ships, planes, tanks and guns. He also adds that in fulfilment of that purpose the Americans will not be intimidated by the threats of Dictators that they will regard as breach of international law and as an act of war America's aid to Democracies which dare resist their aggression.

Vichy's Labour Minister M. Belin is reported to have handed in his resignation. Official circles in Berlin admit that the deterioration in the relations between Berlin and Vichy is increasing and that this will possibly lead to an "entirely new situation."

Rumania is completely cut off from the outside world as a result of demonstrations in the country against the Germans. All telephone calls to the outside world have been stopped including diplomatic ones.

A War Production Executive Committee is to be set up in London consisting of the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Alexander, the Minister of Aircraft Production, Lord Beaverbrook, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Bevin, and the Minister of Supply, Sir Andrew Duncan.

General de Gaulle has conferred on General Catroux the title of the Delegate General for Egypt and High Commissioner for the Middle East and the Balkan States.

Owing to adverse weather conditions no bombing operations have been carried out by the Royal Air Force on the continent.

Blenheim aircraft of the Coastal Command attack three enemy merchant vessels off the Norwegian Coast and badly damage one. Bomber Blenheims attack enemy tankers off the Dutch Coast and score a direct hit on one of them.

Australian Navy authorities announce that seven Europeans and one Filipino are known to have been killed aboard the vessels sunk by Nazi raiders in southern waters. Sixty-seven Europeans are missing and are believed to be prisoners and four Filipinos are believed to be killed.

7th Jan.—British mechanised forces are now in contact with the outer defence of Tobruk. So far 94,000 Italian troops have been captured. Huge quantities of material have been taken. The aerodrome of El Adem near Tobruk has been evacuated by the Italians and 40 aeroplanes (unserviceable owing to Royal Air Force bombing) have been captured by the British forces.

Despite intense cold the Greek Northern Army is relentlessly "nibbling" at Italian positions in the Skumbi valley. Lin is practically in ruins. Royal Air Force bomb Valona.

The cost of the war accounts for the greater part of Italy's heavy deficit of 28,000 million lire of which exceptional military expenditure and Empire development account for 22,000 million lire, on last year's budget.

German "nuisance" raiders appear over London and part of East Coast regions at intervals during the day. England has a blitz-free night.

It is understood that Von Ribbentrop saw Professor Filoff, the Bulgarian Prime Minister. The refusal of Wilhelmstrasse, however, to discuss the state of Bulgarian-German relations indicates that the negotiations have had negative results.

Greek destroyers sailing unmolested into the Adriatic have heavily bombarded the Albanian port of Valona. This is the third time that Greek surface craft has penetrated the Straits of Otranto, which divide the "heel" of Italy from the Albanian coast. Throughout the operations not a single enemy warship was sighted.

Many Iron Guardists have been killed in fighting in Rumania. Fighting is reported to be between two Iron Guardist factions—one supporting General Antonescu's Government and the other of extremist Legionary elements.

A supreme directorate for the United States defence programme to speed up arms production was established by President Roosevelt. The Directorate comprises Mr. William Knudsen as Director-General, Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War and Colonel Knox, Secretary for the Navy. President Roosevelt announces that the Directorate has been given full authority to formulate and execute policies for armament production. By an executive order, he has established an office of Production Management for Defence which will be only nominally under his control.

American troops are "occupying" Greenland and American police are posted in the town of Ivigtul, according to Croyolite miners who have just returned to Copenhagen.

There were no Royal Air Force activities over the continent.

Field Marshal List, Germany's blitz-krieg expert is to arrive in Rumania shortly with a staff of five Generals to take over the command of German troops there, says a Bucharest dispatch.

8th Jan.—British advance troops are about 15 miles from Tobruk. Tobruk is now partly cut off from the west and it is practically impossible for any large formations of Italian troops either to leave or enter. Concentration of British forces is continuing.

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Royal Air Force raid military stores and buildings in Elbasan. The Italians raid Koritza, destroy forty houses and cause more than one hundred casualties.

Nazi air raids on Britain. Damage was done to houses at several points in the London area, in a town in the Midlands and in a few other places. A small number of people have been injured and others killed. It is also disclosed that Westminster Cathedral and Westminster City Hall and Temple have been damaged during a recent air-raid.

At President Roosevelt's personal request, the British Government have agreed to allow a special shipload of foodstuffs and clothing to pass through their blockade from the United States to Unoccupied France for distribution under the strict control of the American Red Cross. If the present shipment safely reaches its proper destination further quantities of such relief goods for children in Unoccupied France will be allowed through the blockade from time to time. It is added that President Roosevelt is well aware of the distinction of such cases between Occupied and Unoccupied France.

A census taken in December shows that five per cent of the population of the London region occupy public shelters, 19 per cent domestic and communal shelters and the rest are living in their own homes.

It is three days since Rumania has been cut off from the outside world. The latest reports indicate that the country is still in a state of turmoil.

The Thailand (Siamese) Government have proclaimed "a state of war" on the frontier with French Indo-China, according to a Bangkok report. It is also reported that Admiral Decoux, Governor-General of Indo-China, has announced that because of Thailand's "challenging attitude", Indo-China must "take up arms"; but France is ready for a friendly solution.

Royal Air Force raid naval dockyards at Wilhelmshaven, Emden and an aerodrome on the island of Borkum. Naples and Palermo have also been raided.

Lull in raids over Britain.

The British submarine *Regulus* is overdue and must be considered lost.

The loss of the Free French submarine *Narval* sunk by enemy action is announced.

President Roosevelt presents budget. Under what will be "a New Deal plus national defence" budget, the United States will be spending 25,000 million dollars (Rs. 7,500 crores) for defence within a three-year period unless, as President Roosevelt has made clear, future circumstances require more.

The German wireless broadcast a report from the Stockholm newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*

alleging that an invasion of Eire was to be "carried out from Ulster in a few weeks" by Britain. The report adds: "In such an event, Berlin is determined to react in the same manner as in the case of Norway and Belgium." It will be recalled that the Nazis invaded Norway and Belgium on the pretext that their neutrality was threatened by the Allies.

9th Jan.—The Imperial Forces have now reached Gazala, a point between thirty and forty miles west of Tobruk. Thirty-five Italian aircraft, all rendered unserviceable as a result of attacks of the Royal Air Force have been taken. The Royal Air Force bomb heavily a hundred Italian planes grounded at Benina air port in Eastern Libya. A particularly heavy raid has been made on Benghazi. Four or five ships receive direct hits and a number of fires have been started in warehouses.

Italo-Greek War. The Italians make an abortive attempt to use ski troops behind the Greek lines. The new tactics fail owing to the vigilance of the Greeks and the Italians' ignorance of local geography. Numbers of ski troops have been rounded up.

Supported by the Royal Air Force the Abyssinians have driven Italians from the post of Gubba on the Blue Nile, west of Lake Tana and are now closing around the fleeing Italians. As a result of British patrol activities on the Sudan frontier, an enemy post north-east of Kassala has been evacuated and occupied by the British. British troops are reported to be waiting on the Kenya-Abyssinia border for the end of the rainy season before invading Abyssinia.

Thailand troops are reported to be advancing in the direction of Angkor, the ruined city and ancient capital of Cambodia and the "Mecca" of world tourists, and have penetrated 20 miles into French Indo-China. French aircraft bomb two towns in Thailand as a reprisal for raids by Siamese planes on Donghene in Indo-China. Indo-China Frontier Guards rout Thai (Siamese) detachments at Ampil, twelve miles north-east of Poipet.

President Roosevelt meets democratic leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives to discuss legislation to give him unlimited authority to lend and lease war material to Britain and other nations warring against the Axis.

WAR IN THE AIR

The following are the details of the British raids from home bases on enemy territory in Europe, ascertained by competent authorities for the week ending 31st December 1940 :—

Date.	Targets.	British losses.	Enemy losses.
December 25. Wednesday.	No day or night raids	..	..
December 26, Thursday.	R. A. F. day raids on aerodromes in Brittany ; submarine base at L'Orient. R. A. F. night raid on Focke-Wulff aerodrome at Marignac, near Bordeaux.	1	..
December 27, Friday.	R.A.F. and Fleet Air Arm raids on Haugesund, Norway (shipping, warehouses, jetties, A.A. batteries) ; shipping at Egersund (Norway) ; aerodromes in Brittany ; submarine base at L'Orient. R. A. F. night raids on L'Orient (submarine base, dry dock, barracks, stores, (power-station) ; naval docks at Cherbourg, Focke-Wulff aerodrome at Marignac ; ship-building yards at St. Nagair and St. Luglebert ; other targets on French coast, including Le. Havre.	2	..
December 28, Saturday.	R. A. F. day raids on submarine base at L'Orient, oil targets at Antwerp and Rotterdam ; invasion bases at Boulogne and Cherbourgh. R. A. F. night raids on invasion bases on North Sea and Channel ; submarine base at L'Orient ; gun emplacements near Cap Gris-Nez.	..	..
December 29, Sunday.	R. A. F. night raids on military objective in Frankfurt area ; aerodromes and invasion bases in occupied territory.	2	..
December 30, Monday.	Raids cancelled owing to weather	..	..
December 31, Tuesday.	R. A. F. day raids on factory at Cologne ; aerodromes at Haamstede, bridge near Emmerick ; docks at Ymuiden ; shipping off Flushing ; oil stores at Rotterdam. Night raids cancelled owing to weather.	2	..

No figures of losses of aircraft due to enemy air raids on Britain have so far been issued for the week ending 31st December 1940.

TALKING POINTS

WAR SITUATION

One of the familiar methods of Nazis is, by setting up rumours, to create confusion among neutrals and bellgerents alike so as to smoke-screen Nazi plans. This technique was adopted in the invasion of Norway and at the beginning of the Italo-Greek war. German-inspired rumours emanated from neutral capitals. It is well, therefore, that foreign agencies' reports, especially those coming directly or indirectly from countries under Axis influence, should be read with caution. For instance, the latest is the threat by Germany that, if the threatened invasion of Eire from Northern Ireland does occur, the Nazis would have necessarily to follow the methods which they did in regard to Denmark and Norway. This report of British desire to enter Eire is a deliberate falsehood, probably the fore-runner of some action contemplated by the Nazis.

The present situation is very complicated and fraught with great possibilities. It is just possible that the War may assume a profoundly different aspect in the immediate future, despite the fact that, though Germany has promised the world some striking adventures, the initiative has been steadily passing to Great Britain. The Royal Air Force has won great victory equal to that of the battle of Marne. Thwarted by British strategy Hitler launched a grand diplomatic offensive. The Tri-Partite pact between Germany, Italy and Japan has failed because Russia refused to allow Japan a free play in the South and the policy of the United States towards Japan has become firmer than ever.

The Italian failure both in Greece and Libya, the resistence to Axis powers on the part of Bulgaria and Yugoslovia, the refusal of the Vichy Government to allow a free passage to German troops through occupied France and hand over the French Fleet and the French Ports in the Mediterranean to the Nazis, and President Roosevelt's epoch-making utterances promising help to the Democracies as against the Totalitarian Powers, all these have created a situation of the utmost complexity. Two things are clear :—Hitler's desire to strike at Britain and that on a scale hitherto not attempted by him ; and secondly his attempt to make France his chosen instrument by subjecting it to severe pressure. This is with a view to close the Western Mediterranean, bottle up the British Fleet, isolate the British armies in the Middle East, cut British communications across the North and South of the Atlantic and then, after massed air attacks on Britain by night, invade the British Isles. But the thing to note is that, whatever happens, Great Britain is strong enough to face the perils with resolution and confidence.

ITALY'S WOES

The remarkable success of General Wavell in the battles of Sidi Barrani, Sollum and Bardia have greatly weakened Italy. The story of these " express marches " has been told and need not be repeated here. Italy has lost 90,000 soldiers in these decisive actions and 72,000 of them are prisoners. It is computed that this loss amounts to one-third of the total of a quarter million soldiers Marshal Graziani has been credited as commanding in North Africa. But the loss of war material has been half of the total equipment. Tobruk, the strongly fortified port, is now the object of General Wavell's attention. Already the even more marked constituting, as it does, one British forces are in the west of Tobruk preventing reinforcements from reaching that place, and, as in the case of Bardia, first-class staff work and remarkable co-operation between the land, air and sea forces may well be expected to bring about the fall of Tobruk sooner than may be supposed. Units of the forces of the Commonwealth, including Free French Forces, have been at work in these regions. But the Australians have, by their daring and courage, won name and fame. The Minister of War in Australia who has visited the Western Desert in recent days, forecasts the fall of Italy in six months if the British keep on hitting her. However that may be, it is now clear that Mussolini has completely failed to carry out his allotted share of the Axis programme. And his folly has destroyed the legend of Axis invincibility and greatly strengthened the spirit of resistance in South Eastern Mediterranean.

AMERICA

The achievements of the Royal Air Force, the failure of the invasion of Great Britain and the terrorist methods of Nazis in occupied countries, have brought about a great revulsion of feeling in America. The people of the United States no longer look upon the Atlantic Ocean as a safe Maginot line. They recognize the fact that only the British Fleet prevents the Nazis from an adventure across the Atlantic. The fire-side talk of President Roosevelt has been followed by a historic speech made to the 77th Congress on Monday last on the state of the nation. Here are few points made by the President :—

(1) American security has never been so seriously threatened as it was that day.

(2) The peace of 1919 was far less unjust than the kind of pacification being carried out under the new order of tyranny which seeks to spread over every country to-day.

(3) The democratic way of life is, at this moment, being directly assailed in every part of the world.

(4) An armed defence of democratic existence is now being gallantly waged in four continents.

(5) International generosity, the return of true independence, world disarmament or good business cannot be expected from a dictated peace.

(6) Therefore, we must beware of that small group of selfish men who would clip the wings of the American eagle in order to feather their own nests.

(7) It must be remembered that, as long as the British Navy retains its power, there is no danger of direct invasion. America, therefore, should bring about all-inclusive national defence to afford full support to all those people who are resisting aggression.

(8) Non-acquiescence in a dictated peace by aggressors and sponsored by appeasers is demanded on the highest principles of morality and considerations of America's security.

(9) America will not be intimidated by the threats of dictators that they will regard as a breach of international law and as an act of war, any help to Great Britain.

(10) Here are four essential human freedoms to be secured, freedom of speech and expression everywhere, freedom of and right to worship God in their own way everywhere, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

The President further said that America was committed to the full support of all democracies now in trouble. " We shall send you in ever-increasing numbers ships, planes, tanks and guns. This is our purpose and our pledge."

He would ask the Congress for new authorizations to carry out this large scheme because America was to act as an arsenal for democracies. This promise is already being implemented in the following ways: (1) 200 merchant ships are to be built each of about 7,500 tons costing 350 million dollars. It is expected that Great Britain will also be benefited by the scheme. (2) America will be spending 25,000 million dollars within the three-year period and will possess the most medern mechanized army. (3) A Supreme Directorate for the new Defence programme has been set up. The new office will have three divisions, namely a Producing Division, a Purchasing Division and a Priority Division. (4) The United States Navy expects to add about 4,000 planes to its fleet during the current year. (5) There will be three fleets namely Atlantic, Pacific and the Asiatic. (6) America is helping in the policing of the town of Ivigtul, obviously to prevent Greenland from being used as a spring board by the Tatalitarian Powers. (7) It is expected that the Administration will ask Congress for the appropriation of 10,000 million dollars for the "Aid to Britain" programme.

EFFECTS OF AIR BOMBING

It is well known that tremendous damage has been inflicted on vital industrial areas of North-West Germany as well as to the Reich's entire system of rail and canal communications by the Royal Air Force. For instance, Hamm has the largest railway marshalling yards in Europe and has been visited by the Royal Air Force nearly on 100 occasions. It is now been virtually deserted and therefore it has not been raided recently. The Royal Air Force will resume its visits if the place is got into working order again. Hamburg is the largest port of Germany, but now, as the result of the repeated bombing raids by the Royal Air Force, it has been closed. Germany has refused to afford facilities to neutral press representatives to visit places of military importance which have been damaged by the Royal Air Force and that is why the exact nature of the injury inflicted is not known to the outside world. But there is no such rigid censorship in regard to the damage inflicted on English towns. The descriptions are vivid and the reports leave out only such details as would be valuable to the enemies. Bombing is by night and therefore very indiscriminate. But neutral observers have stated that Germans have so far adversely affected only one per cent of Britain's entire industrial output in all branches of war supply; the damage to actual military (as apart from industrial) objectives may be gauged from the remarkably small number of service casualties compared with civilian raid victims. If, therefore, some doubt exists in the public mind as to the effect of British raids on Germany and the occupied territories as compared with the effect of German raids on Britain, it must be remembered that reticence and sobriety of statement are the features of British communiques and these will be found to be justified by events.

BRITISH NATIONAL WAR BONDS

The following facts about the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent national bonds now being issued in Great Britain will be of interest. They are being issued at the same or an even slightly lower rate of interest (relative to dates of maturity) than previous issues and this demonstrates the confidence of the public and the determination of Government to stick to " three per cent War." One of the new loans is for a long period and this shows that the Government are providing ample savings for the task of reconstruction after the war. The total savings since November 1939 is £1,269 millions. It is equal to the total revenue for the current year. This shows complete faith in victory of the British public. Nearly one half of the total is due to the savings by persons of small means. The efforts of the authorities to restrict unnecessary consumption are having the desired effect and a large part of the wages is going back to Government in the form of savings. The huge saving especially of the lesser income groups is a good guarantee against inflation. The danger of inflation would become still less if the American proposals for the loan of arms and munitions of Britain are carried out.

NAZI PROPAGANDA

MORE LIGHT ON THE METHODS.

German propaganda methods are well-known, their main features being the spread of untruth and mutal contradiction—one office contradicting what is put out by another. It was stated, for instance, that Hitler had moved to his headquarters in Northern France, that Goring had been standing Napolean-like on the cliffs opposite Dover and that neutral correspondents had been invited to witness the conquest of England about to begin. "By Sunday," it was stated, "all arrangements had to be complete, ready for the order to advance against Great Britain by air, sea and land forces." The Diplomatic Correspondent of the 'Times', who writes upon this topic, refers also to what several other Government spokesmen have said on the same subject. It was stated, for example, that an invasion was unnecessary in bringing about the defeat of Great Britain and that more bombing of London and more destruction of the docks with widespread attacks on other parts of the country would force Great Britain to sue for peace.

Similar contradictions were observed in regard to raids on Buckingham Palace. These were denied and it was stated that bombs were intended to explode petrol tanks near the Palace. But when it was pointed out that there were no such tanks near the Palace, it was said that every German workman's home bombed by British aeroplanes was more to them than the dwelling of the British Royal Family.

As regards the indiscriminate bombing of the civilian population, the German communiqué declared very frankly that the raids were reprisals for British raids, and that "the district of Poplar and westward of the East India Docks were targets in last night's attack on London." The German Official news agency also stated that "another wave of bombers dropped their bombs on the Greenwich district, on the station and railway track, and a large gasworks on the Thames." And because Mr. Churchill had stated that every inch of ground would be contested in Great Britain, Germany stated in reply that every inch of British ground must be counted a military objective.

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN.

Mr. W. A. Sinclair, in a book entitled "The Voice of the Nazi" in which his broadcast talks on the subject have been brought together, points out the true inwardness of Nazi propaganda. He writes: "When we hear Nazi propaganda mentioned, we tend to think mainly of the Nazi broadcasts in English, for they are in our language, and we are the people they are aimed at. We must, however, remember that propaganda in English is only a comparatively small part of the Nazis' total output, and not necessarily the most important part. They are sending out steady streams of propaganda of every kind, by wireless, by pamphlets, by newspapers and by films, to every country in the world, and twenty-four hours a day.

'The peoples of those various countries are all different. The Nazi Propaganda Ministry, therefore, sitting in its offices in Berlin, designs different propaganda talks, and different "News Bulletins," to send out to each of the different countries it intends to work upon. For that reason, the propaganda sent out to each separate country usually sounds fairly convincing when considered by itself, because it has been specially made up to sound convincing to that particular people. If we, for instance, hear only the propaganda intended for our country, we may quite easily be taken in by it. If, however, we compare the propaganda sent to one country with the propaganda sent to other countries, then that gives the show away.'

"Here is an instance from one of the Nazi propaganda talks meant for France. The purpose of these talks is to mislead the French into thinking that Germany really wants to be at peace with France, and would be so, if it were not for the wicked British. Therefore the Nazis spend a lot of time trying to explain away those very prominent passages in *Mein Kampf* in which Herr Hitler asserts his intention of attacking and utterly destroying France. Here is what was said in a Nazi broadcast in French on the 18th of last month (April 1940) :—

'French listeners . . . you are told that in this book Hitler decided on the destruction of France. You are too logical not to understand that *Mein Kampf*, being a human work, has its human side, in this case an echo of the popular anti-French feeling which prevailed in 1924 . . . . There are reasons for modifications of *Mein Kampf* which you can see for yourselves . . . . You must see that policy towards France has changed, when you see that Hitler concluded an agreement with Russia . . . . If in a few days, facing the British danger, the German State could make an alliance with Russia, you must see that no preconceived ideas exist in Hitler's mind, and that he directs German policy according to events and circumstances.'

"If you had heard that talk, and that talk, only, you would probably think it was frank, honest, and fairly convincing. But it turns out to be very different, when we hear what was being said from other Nazi wireless stations at the same time. The Germans were being

urged to give copies of *Mein Kampf* as Christmas presents to soldiers, and two days after that French talk, the Deutschlandsender station said this in a German talk :—

'Not a word of this book has changed, just as Hitler has not changed. The new pocket edition makes it possible for every soldier to have the Fuehrer's words at hand at all times.'

THE GRAF SPEE STORY

"Here is another example—about ourselves this time. It is interesting because it has an ingenious additional twist in it. Last month the Nazis were busily trying in every way to reduce the prestige of the British Navy; so on the 21st they sent out this "news" bulletin :—

'The most unbelievable scenes took place during the funeral service of the thirty-six sailors of the *Graf Spee*. The crews of several British ships anchored in Montevideo spat on the coffins of German sailors as the funeral procession passed, and made cat-calls during the funeral service. This indescribable cynicism, if one calls it nothing else, reached its height when, immediately after the funeral service, the British sailors threw the body of a dead dog on the grave of the German sailors.'

"This item of 'news' was sent out for Asia and the Far East at half-past nine in the morning; in Dutch at mid-day; in Spanish at two in the afternoon; in Arabic for the Near East and Middle East at half-past four; and in French at a quarter-past eight. The story was the same each time, except that for some countries where cats are regarded as unclean, it was a dead cat. But this story was not included in the Nazi broadcasts in English.

"Then the speaker from the Deutschlandsender station, at a quarter to seven that same evening, flatly denied that any such story had been broadcast at all. This is where the characteristic additional twist comes in, for he went on to accuse the British wireless of lying. In a tone of injured innocence and righteous indignation, he said this :—

'The British wireless goes so far as to assert that we tried to make propaganda beside the open graves of dead sailors, with allegations about dead dogs.'

Then, as if addressing us, he went on :—

'No, no, gentlemen, the German people are a people of soldiers. They not only act in that manner, they also speak in that manner, and we are only too glad to leave abuse of this kind to you.'

"To any one who did not know about those other German broadcasts which had been going out all that same day, this talk might have carried some weight. It might even have achieved the purpose for which it was given, which was of course to make those who heard it think that the British wireless was unreliable."

GERMAN ATROCITIES

In a communication to the 'Times' Mr. Cecil Walsh has narrated two incidents calculated to expose the methods employed by Nazis to terrorise the people of England. He writes : "Recently two young women, out for a walk in a South Coast town, were passing a school and were making for home as the siren had sounded. An aeroplane came racing towards them at a height of about 100 feet. Looking up they caught sight of the swastika, and before they had time to do anything a machine gun opened fire. Fortunately the aim was poor, and a gateway was handy. They flung themselves down under the hedge in the gateway and escaped injury.

"At a later date three Germans surpassed this ghastly piece of frightfulness. Three fighters flew low over the same town. On their way to the front, which was apparently their main target, they had to cross over a recreation ground where about 30 children were playing. They opened fire with their machine guns, but again showed but poor marksmanship. The children scattered; some fell on their faces, others ran to the ordinary weather shelters on the boundaries. One bullet went through a boy's cap, probably after it had fallen on the ground, and another struck the ground 18 inches from a second boy's head. These miraculous escapes, which seem to be not infrequent in such cases, have no bearing on such methods of warfare, which sound quite incredible."

GERMAN GAINS AND FAILURES

Hitler now admits that his invasions of Scandinavia and the Low Countries, for which Goebbels and Ribbentrop manufactured every kind of specious excuse, were undertaken in order to obtain bases for attacking Britain.

These bases stretch from the Bay of Biscay to the Arctic. They enable German submarines and surface-raiders to operate in the Atlantic. They enable German warplanes to attack Britain at short range, and German coastal guns to fire across the Channel. To these strategic advantages, which Germany never enjoyed in the last war, is added the neutrality of Eire, which Britain has respected. Meanwhile the ruthless plunder of conquered territory temporarily relieved some of Germany's pressing problems of supply.

Theoretically, Britain could not survive such a situation. Mussolini thought so, and began to move towards Alexandria. Hitler thought so, and prophesied the collapse of Britain first for August 15, then for September 15, then for "the autumn" and now in far less confident terms for some unspecified time.

MUSSOLINI, THE "PROTECTOR OF ISLAM"

AS AN AMERICAN SEES IT.

The arrogant claim that Italy is the chosen instrument for the emancipation of Muslims has been repudiated by the followers of Islam in numerous countries, in Egypt, in Turkey, in Syria, in Iraq and in India. Such an assertion ill-accords with the treatment meted out by the "Synthetic Napolean" to Muslim countries. Mr. Edward Kleinbrer, writing recently in an American weekly, reviews the relations of Italy with Muslims in many places in language which is strong, passionate and perfectly justified.

It is no secret, he says, that when Ramon Serrano Suner, emissary from Franco, visited Rome recently, he was urged, among other things, to assist Mussolini—the "Protector of Islam"—in the task of winning over the Arab population of Northern Africa.

The writer proceeds: "Mussolini's propagandists have ballyhooed him as 'the invincible warrior' throughout Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey and even Afghanistan and India. Every international event has been exploited to point out the 'weakness' and the 'perfidy' of the French and the English, as contrasted with the 'dynamism' and 'magnanimity' of Imperial Italy. Much of this propaganda was carried on with proper diplomatic discretion—and in this the Italians were abetted by the incredible passivity of the British and the French—but the bulk of it has been brazenly carried on in the press and over the radio.

"It was some three years ago that Mussolini conceived the idea of anointing himself 'Protector of Islam'. The investiture took place during his spectacular tour of Libya in March 1937. The public square of Tripoli was chosen for the ceremony. The details had been carefully prepared by Fascist officials. The Arab population had been ordered to decorate their houses and shops with Italian banners, which Marshal Balbo's carabineers distributed profusely. The 'Sword of Islam', which was to be presented to Mussolini, had been bought in Florence with government funds; to make it look more authentic, Libyan Jewish goldsmiths had been paid to engrave Arabic designs on it.

"The Protector-Elect, mounted on a pure-white Arab charger, awaited the approach of two hundred Libyan chieftains, herded together from the most distant corners of Tripolitania. The first of these carried the sword, which had only that moment been handed to him by Marshal Balbo. He presented it humbly to Mussolini, who accepted it with dignity of a Caesar.

"'Mohammedans!' shouted Il Duce, from his saddle: 'You have presented me with the most acceptable of all gifts—this sword, symbol of force and justice.'

"'Fascist Italy', he continued, resting the weapon upright on his harness, 'wishes to prove its solidarity with Islam and its sympathy with the Moslems of the whole world. Rome will show you with her laws how she cares for your increasingly greater destiny.'

"Then, unsheathing the sword, he raised it straight above his head. 'Mohammedans!' he cried again. 'Spread these, my words, in all the homes of your cities and villages even to the last shepherd's tent. You know that I am a man sparing in promises, but when I promise, I fulfil.'

WHAT IS THE TRUTH.

"But the Arabs of Libya knew only too well how much Mussolini's promises and professions of friendship were worth. The very day after Mussolini's spectacular investiture, one of the most prominent Arabs of Tripoli complained to me that thousands of young Arabs had been taken from their homes during the night to be enrolled in the Libyan divisions of the Italian Army. He spoke bitterly about the treatment accorded to Moslem notables and religious leaders who had been compelled to stand for hours in the Tripoli city square waiting for Mussolini's arrival, and had then been led like slaves before the 'Protector'.

"From Palestine to the Himalayas the word was carried that Islam had found a new protector, and that Mussolini was the friend of the Arab peoples. Italy's entire consular and diplomatic service in the Near East, operating with the assistance of whole corps of paid propagandists, was set to work to convince the Arab countries that Italy, like them, was a victim of the "robber powers," England and France. The Italian radio in Bari informed the natives that they were being exploited by Imperialist masters, and that England and France hoped to keep them in subjection.

"A *leit-motif* of the Italian propaganda was to contrast the welfare of the Moslems in Libya and Italian Somaliland with the treatment meted out to their co-religionists in Palestine under the 'Anglo-Jewish yoke.' The Fascists obviously banked on the expectation that the Arab masses had already forgotten the brutality with which General Rodolfo Graziani—the same Graziani who is today in charge of the Italian campaign in Egypt—suppressed the Arab revolt of 1922–29 in Cyrenaica. But in this

expectation they were mistaken: for the pacification of Cyrenaica was something that could not easily be forgotten. In the course of the 'pacification' hundreds of villages were sacked and burned and uncounted thousands were executed; in seven terrible years the population of the territory fell from 1,300,000 to 800,000 terrorized human beings. The bloody measures of 'the butcher' Graziani aroused the fiercest indignation throughout the Arabic world and this indignation still smolders.

"I toured Italian Africa shortly after the final suppression of the Arab rebellion and I was permitted to visit one of the many concentration camps that spotted the Libyan desert. In the camp of Sidi Ahmed-el-Magrun alone more than 15,000 men, women and children were herded together. Entire villagers from the mountain range of Jebel, where the rebellion against Italian rule had been particularly violent, were interned under conditions of unbelievable misery and degradation. The Italian officer who conducted me praised the 'justice and tolerance' of the Fascist Government, and explained that it was all a matter of 'liberating' the Arabs from the tyrannical rule of the Senussi family and their tribesmen."

"There are many potent reasons why Egypt should shun the fate of becoming an Italian protectorate. Among the mass of the people there is no love lost on the Italians, because Italian small traders, professional men, artisans and farmers are their most serious competitors.

"'The real protector of Islam is Allah,' declared Sheik Mustafa El Maraghi, renowned rector of the Al Azhar Moslem University in Cairo, after Mussolini's pompous investiture on the public square of Tripoli, 'and it is not proper to ask the protection of an infidel whose only intention is to use the devoted sons of Allah for his own purposes.'"

WHEELED CAVALRY

Rough-riding of a new kind is being adopted as part of the defence of Great Britain against invaders. Members of this new and extremely mobile unit consist of crack motor cyclists, heroes of many a dirt track and hill-climbing trial. They will be stationed at strategic points, ready to tear off at top-speed to deal with parachute or plane landings. If necessary they will cut straight across country. Tests which were recently made in the Western Command were of the most gruelling nature, but so experienced are these young riders in roaring up mountain sides, leaping ditches and ponds and emerging safely from spectacular skids that this unit of cavalry on wheel will prove a formidable obstacle to enemy troops ill-advised enough to attempt a landing from the air.

TERRORISM IN THE PROTECTORATE

Fifty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty-one Czechs are imprisoned in various Nazi jails and concentration camps, according to a detailed report from Nazi sources. Concentration camps in Germany have the largest group of Czech prison population, namely, 43,284. Nine thousand six hundred and thirteen persons were jailed by the Nazis in Bohemia and Moravia in Schutzhaft (protective custody). Eight hundred and fifty-four Czechs have been indicted for political "crimes" and sentenced. These data are by no means complete. They merely account for the known cases. The actual number of jailed Czechs was estimated recently at about 70,000 by the Czechoslovak National Committee in Paris. According to Nazi sources the percentage of jailed persons in Czechoslovakia is much greater than in Germany and the other countries occupied by Germans in this war. That alone is sufficient to prove that Czechoslovak opposition to the Nazis remains unbroken.

The first anniversary of the second war was celebrated by the Gestapo in Bohemia and Maravia by arresting about 600 Czechs. One hundred and fifty Czechs were taken to jail in Prague and 500 in smaller cities in the round-up of Benes "adherents." Some of them were accused of concealing arms and munitions or anti-Nazi leaflets, according to Overseas News Agency. It is said that the Germans never discovered the hidden Czech arms and munitions (about 20 per cent of the total), in spite of the most ingenious methods used by the Nazis to locate them.

GERMANISATION PROCEEDS

By a new decree, the Nazi authorities have made the instruction of the German language compulsory in all Czech grammar-schools. At the same time great pressure is being brought to bear on all parents in regions with German minorities or majorities, to send their children to German schools. Often the head of the family is threatened with expulsion from that territory, unless he agrees to give his child a German education and have him enter the Nazi-youth organizations. This pressure is specially heavy in the Sudeten territory, where about 800,000 Czechs are ruthlessly being germanized or forced to emigrate to the Protectorate.

The Government authorities of the Protectorate have been instructed by the Nazis to prepare a decree compelling all Czech residents of Prague whose presence is not necessary (for instance all pensioners), to leave Prague as soon as possible. They will be replaced by 30,000 Germans who are already prepared to move in. In this way, the capital of Czechoslovakia is to be germanized.

A MAGNIFICENT OFFER

It was stated a few weeks ago that Italians had made a magnificent offer, a gift of the British Dominions to America, in case that country should cease to help Great Britain in the prosecution of the present war. At that time hopes ran high in Rome that England's end was near, though, one may presume, that Italy would refrain from making such boasts now that it has had such sad experience of what British might really is in the battle on the Western Desert.

This offer was made by Mario Appelius in Mussolini's newspaper "Popolo D'Italia", promising to give America, Canada Newfoundland, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, and even Australia and New Zealand, if the United States should stand aside and allow the totalitarian powers to establish their new order in Europe and in Asia. The New York correspondent of the 'Times' in reporting the reactions of American opinion to this offer said, as follows :—

"It is quite the most munificent offer that has ever been made to this country, and Americans feel great regret in having to decline it. But, in a way, they are a realistic people, and they know only too well how ill-fitted they are by training and temperament to engage in such a bargain. All too few of them have had the cultural advantages of their Al Capone and their Dutch Schultz. Fascist Italy, both geographically and in ideas, however, is so far away from democratic America that Appelius can well be excused for not knowing how helplessly enchained Americans are by such parochial notions as honesty and decency and how in their naivety they find it impossible to distinguish between the glorious aggression of the Axis Powers and plain, wholesale robbery and murder.

Regrettably, there are a few Americans, too, who have been rude enough to question whether Singnor Appelius and his friends can deliver the goods he has generously promised this country. There have been others—a great many others, one is bound to report—for whom Appelius's offer, by some strange perversion, has become a rich source of amusement. It is unfortunate, but that is the way it is."

HUNGARIAN "AUTONOMY" OF SUBCARPATHIAN RUSSIA

Subcarpathian Russia or Carpathoukraine as the eastern province of Czechoslovakia was also called had been promised by Hungary absolute autonomy within the framework of Hungary. The pupil Hungary followed in the fulfilment of his promises exactly the glorious example of his Nazi tutor and the province is suffering under a most brutal Hungarian regime. About the local happenings, it is difficult to obtain news, except what appears in Hungary's directed press, but even that gives an idea of the political and cultural autonomy.

In Czechoslovakia all members of Parliament from this province were Carpatho-Russians with the exception of one Czech, one Jew and one Hungarian representing the minorities of the province. Now the representation of the province in the Hungarian Chamber consists of six Hungarians for the small Hungarian minority and five Carpatho-Russians for the remaining majority.

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN ENEMY BROADCASTS

BROADCASTS IN ENGLISH

Christmas Greetings.

Assuming the mantle of Christian piety, Dr. Goebbels instructs his radio propagandists to announce (December 27) that it was out of veneration for the Christmas season that the *Luftwaffe* did not raid Britain on December 25 —whereas the wicked Royal Air Force bombed Germany and German-occupied territory. In point of fact, the Royal Air Force carried out no raids on the Continent on December 24 and 25; but the British characteristically claimed no special virtue for this lull, attributing it chiefly to unfavourable weather conditions.

In any case, Christian piety sits uneasily on the crooked shoulders of Josef Goebbels, who in March 1936, declared: "Our Leader now becomes the intermediary between his people and the Throne of God"; and who later authorized the publication in the *Saarbruckener Landeszeitung* of this blasphemous assertion: "Hitler is a new, a greater, a more powerful Jesus Christ."

Lots of Aluminium.

The Germans allege (December 24) that as a result of the damage they claim to have inflicted recently on aluminium factories at Fort William, Scotland, *plus* the shortage of that metal in America, Britain's aluminium supply has been seriously affected. In fact they go so far as to estimate the loss at "between 70 to 80 per cent" of the total supply. Despite all Nazi attempts to elicit precise statements on these and other supplies, the British Government obstinately refuse to give away secrets; but on December 30 Mr. Layton Bennett, Chairman of the Aluminium Appeal Committee, made an announcement in London which can hardly afford much comfort to the enemy. "More than half the aluminium which thousands of householders gave towards war production has been turned into the manufacture of aeroplanes" he said. "The next will be ready to take the sky at the end of January. Five hundred tons of aluminium pots and pans

from Army kitchens—sufficient for 500 planes —will shortly be handed over to the Ministry of Aircraft Production by the War Office".

As to the Nazi claim to have inflicted so much damage during a single raid on a single aluminium factory (if the raid ever took place) neutral sources recently described the *Luftwaffe* as having adversely affected only one per cent of Britain's entire industrial output in all branches of war supply. America's 1939 production of aluminium was 148,000 tons, and in that year U. S. manufacturers completed a 26,000,000 dollar expansion programme and initiated another expansion which will cost 30,000,000 dollars. In addition, the British Empire has immense aluminium resources. Under an agreement concluded early in 1940, the whole exportable aluminium surplus of Canada—some 90 per cent of her total production—goes to the British Government; while British Guiana, which has quadrupled its production in the last five years—is another fertile source.

Lots of Haw-Haw

Lord Haw-Haw, who last week wasted many a crocodile-tear in trying to get the British people to renounce Mr. Churchill and sue for peace, changes his tune somewhat sharply on December 24. But first of all, to explain the failure of his blandishments, he reveals that the British are suffering from amnesia which makes them indifferent to "stark reality".

From these generalities, Haw-Haw descends sharply to his usual vituperative personalities. Mr. Churchill is "Mr. Hyde, ugly, malicious, and evil", Mr. Eden, a notorious war-monger; Lord Halifax, "this long, dreary, sententious streak of aberrant mysticism". The recent British Cabinet changes are mere "kitchen politics"—how these Nazis harp on food!—and there is a cryptic remark that "the evacuation of the British Government" will be a big problem.

It has certainly proved a problem to Haw-Haw, who described it as "imminent" as long ago as September 15.

Haw-Haw then pokes ponderous fun at the new press attaché to the British Legation at Stockholm, who, he says, can only reach his destination *via* Captetown, Durban, Cairo and Moscow. It is tactless of Haw-Haw to admit that Britons can still travel to the ends of the earth, and to forget that no German could set foot to-day in Durban, Capetown or Cairo, or prevent an Englishman from setting foot in Moscow. Finally, after yet another gibe at those 50 U. S. destroyers—whose acquisition by Britain seems to have annoyed the Germans more than any other incident of the war—he warns the British people against "the illusion that they are going to be saved by the United States", which does not regard the war "as an occasion for philanthropy".

Just how America regards the war was subsequently explained (to Lord Haw-Haw and others) by President Roosevelt on December 30.

Churchill Scores a Hit

The Axis radio dismisses Mr. Churchill's broadcast to the Italian people as "an insignificant speech", but evidently both Rome and Berlin have thought it significant enough to broadcast many hundreds of words upon it during the past week. Rome insists that "Mr. Churchill's words had a much effect on the Fascist Italian nation as water on a duck's back"; their effect on the non-Fascist Italian nation, however, was such that—within 48 hours of the Premier's suggestion that Italians should rally round the house of Savoy—the Rome Radio found it necessary to deny that differences existed between King Victor Emmanuel and the Duce.

"Mr. Churchill's entirely insincere assurance about the friendly intentions of Great Britain towards Italy are contradicted by the facts" says Berlin. "Italy possesses no unrestricted freedom of action within her own sea—the Mediterranean. This vital issue was not even mentioned in Mr. Churchill's speech." While the phrase "no unrestricted freedom of action" is certainly applicable to the Fascist Fleet and mercantile marine to-day, it is worth remembering that, besides Italy, many other countries have Mediterranean seaboards, including Spain, France, Yugloslavia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Palestine and Egypt. The freedom of action of these countries has been menaced—and worse than menaced—by Mussolini; never by Britain.

The Germans whose Fuehrer laid down in *Mein Kampf*, that " when nations are fighting for their existence . . . all humane and aesthetic considerations must be set aside", at last appear to have discovered a competitor in barbarism. On reports that copies of Mr. Churchill's speech were to be distributed among captured Italians, Berlin observes (December 27): " The speech insults Italy to such a degree that it would be inhuman to hand its contents to Italian prisoners of war".

BROADCASTS IN ASIATIC LANGUAGES

Flowers of Speech

The Rome Radio continued through the week to indulge in its weakness for invective. The words "blackguards", "bastards", "fawning dogs", were repeatedly used for political leaders belonging to *all parties* and all *communities*. "The permanent place for them" we were told "is hell". As for Indians, an appeal to them (December 24) began "You asses!...."

The Mediterranean

After a long silence (necessitated, presumably, by what the Nazis delicately called the "Taranto Episode" and by the subsequent naval encounter off Sardinia) the Italians once

again seek to ridicule the claim that the British Fleet dominates the seas (December 27). They go on to say that the claim can only be accepted by "toadies or poor fools or illiterates". The Editor of the *Ikdam* of Turkey (an independent neutral country) will not be accused by the Italians, one hopes, of being any of these things.

On December 2, the *Ikdam* wrote:—" The best proof of the British Navy's mastery of the Mediterranean is the fact that British merchantmen sail everywhere in that sea in convoy and frequently unescorted. British and Greek ships continue to call at Turkish ports whereas not a single Italian vessel has done so since June 10" (Italy entered the war on June 10).

Frenzied Building

That the Nazis lack material with which to build propaganda is proved by their attempt to make capital out of the fact that the British Government have employed large numbers of labourers to repair the damage done to London by aerial attacks (December 29). If employing labour to repair damage is such a reprehensible practice, will the Nazis deign to explain Hitler's decree of November 15 in which he ordered Dr. Ley, the Nazi Labur leader, " to build at least 300 houses for workers by the end of this year", and thousands more subsequently. " The decree has been issued ", we were told by Berlin on November 19 "because at the end of the war Germany's requirements of labour will increase and in order to increase population and make people healthy and strong proper houses are essential".

But the hurry with which 300 houses were ordered to be built—in less than 45 days—pointed rather to the problems created by the Royal Air Force's bombardment of places like Krupps at Essen and Gelsenkirchen and Leuna synthetic oil plants, where factories and worker's houses are interspersed together, than to any distant hope of increasing the population at the end of the war.

Rationing in Germany and Britain

" Nowadays," says Berlin, (Arabic, December 27) " the quantity of ration allowance *per capita* in Britain is lower than that in Germany ".

But, while in Britain only a few articles of food are rationed, in Germany nearly the whole menu is restricted. Tea and coffee are unobtainable in Germany, while bread, flour, meat, fat, milk, eggs, sugar, jam, rice macaroni, apples, and substitutes for tea and coffee are among the things that can only be obtained with ration coupons.

Meat rations in both countries are about equal. Germans get a rather bigger butter ration, but their margarine and cooking fat allowances are smaller and most people in Germany must be content with skimmed milk. Bread is not rationed at all in Britain.

People in Britain can make up on the things that are not rationed; in Germany that is impossible because consumption of practically everything is restricted.

Comprehensive as is the German rationing system, food would be far more restricted but for the policy of plundering the conquered peoples. Not only have quantities of food (including 9/10ths of Holland's butter-stocks) been carried off, but the conquered peoples are subject to stricter rationing than the Germans. Unemployed who refuse to go to Germany for forced labour are actually deprived of all ration-cards.

Tailpiece

A typical case of misstatement and misrepresentation was provided by the Nazis on December 27. They alleged that the British Minister of Supply who has just returned from America says that no large help can be received from the U. S. A., and the British people should not expect America to perform a miracle.

To begin with the Minister of Supply never went to America. Sir Walter Layton, the famous economist, went there on behalf of the Ministry of Supply. He returned from America recently and speaking in London he said: " The constantly growing volume of war material which America can produce gives certainty of ultimate victory."

N.B.—Please file the Madras War Review regularly for future reference.

[With the compliments of the Director of Information, Madras.]

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